



Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 7 (d)

**Coordination, programme and other questions:
long-term programme of support for Haiti**

Programme budget implications of draft resolution E/2005/L.20/Rev.1

**Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of
the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council**

I. Relevant requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 8 of draft resolution E/2005/L.20/Rev.1, the Economic and Social Council would:

(a) Decide to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti until the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in July 2006, with the purpose of following closely and providing advice on Haiti's long-term development strategy to promote socio-economic recovery and stability, with particular attention to the need to ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti, based on the long-term national development priorities, building upon the Interim Cooperation Framework and stressing the need to avoid overlap and duplication with respect to existing mechanisms;

(b) Express its satisfaction to the Secretary-General for the support provided to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group and request him to continue to provide adequate support for the Group's activities;

(c) Decide that the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group will be reviewed at the substantive session of 2006, with a view to considering whether to continue its mandate, based on the Council's consideration of the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group and of the situation prevailing in Haiti at that time.

II. Activities by which the proposed requests would be carried out

2. Should the Council adopt draft resolution E/2005/L.20/Rev.1, it is estimated that support provided to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group would consist of travel, daily



subsistence allowance and terminal expenses for four members of the Advisory Group and one staff member of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to undertake a mission to Haiti in April 2006.

III. Estimated resource requirements

3. The resource requirement to undertake the consultation mission is estimated at \$13,500, providing for travel, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses (\$11,500 for 4 members of the Advisory Group and \$2,000 for one staff member of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs).

IV. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2006-2007

4. It is anticipated that the conference-servicing costs required for servicing the Advisory Group would be negligible and would therefore be met within resources available under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

5. The potential for absorption of the requirements of \$13,500 within the estimates proposed under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 has been considered, however, it is anticipated that the additional costs cannot be absorbed.

V. Contingency fund

6. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures were proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VI. Conclusion

7. Should draft resolution E/2005/L.20/Rev.1 be adopted by the Council, \$13,500 would be required under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007. This would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require appropriations for the biennium 2006-2007 to be approved by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.